

[20 April, 2001]

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States for conservation of elephants and their habitats. Government of India has so far provided State Governments about Rs. 44 crore under this Project. Recently, the Central Government has also empowered the C.B.I. under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute the wildlife offenders. A Special Co-ordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife. The matter relating to protection of wild animals was also discussed in the conference of the State Forest Ministers in Coimbatore in January, 2001 and the following recommendations for improving the existing protection system were made:

1. Lifting the ban on recruitment of forestry personnel and filling up the vacancies immediately.
2. Evolving effective mechanism for intelligence gathering and preventing wildlife crimes.
3. Training for the forest staff for undertaking investigation.
4. Designating special courts for trying wildlife offences.
5. Creation of effective enforcement infrastructure both within and outside protected areas to prevent poaching.

The Government of Karnataka in October, 2000 has also amended the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 for providing greater powers to the forest officers for investigating wildlife offences. The State Government has also set up a forest cell in the Police Department headed by an Inspector General of Forests to help the Forest Department in dealing with forest offences.

Cadre review of Indian Forest Service

3860. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a system of cadre review of Indian Forest Service;

(b) whether such a review is mandatory after a gap of five years; and

(c) when is the next cadre review due?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
(SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In terms of Rule 4 (2) of the IFS (Cadre) Rules, 1966 the review of the strength and composition of each State Cadre should take place ordinarily at an interval of every five years.

(c) Information is given in the Statement.

Statement

Date of next Cadre review due

| Sl. No. | Name | Review due since |
|---------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. | AGMUT | October, 2000 |
| 2. | Assam-Meghalaya | November, 2000 |
| 3. | Bihar | July, 2000 |
| 4. | Gujarat | August, 1996 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | November, 2000 |
| 6. | Jammu & Kashmir | May, 2000 |
| 7. | Madhya Pradesh | August, 1998 |
| 8. | Maharashtra | February, 2001 |
| 9. | Manipur-Tripura | July, 2000 |
| 10. | Nagaland | October, 1999 |
| 11. | Orissa | October, 1999 |
| 12. | Punjab | May, 2000 |
| 13. | Tamil Nadu | February, 2001 |

Funds to U.P. for Forest Conservation

†3861. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise funds allocated to Uttar Pradesh for forest conservation during 2000-2001;

(b) whether complaints regarding non-utilisation of such funds in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.